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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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Guojun Zhou

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EXAMINER

SHANG, ANNAN Q

ART UNIT

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PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/822,603	Applicant(s) ZHOU, GUOJUN	
	Examiner ANNAN Q. SHANG	Art Unit 2424	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 08 December 2008.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,4,5,13,14,16-23,27,28,32 and 34-38 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,4,5,13,14,16-23,27,28,32 and 34-38 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 13, 14, 16-23, 27, 28, 32 and 34-38 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Applicant amends claims, discusses the prior arts of record and the claimed invention, further argues that "Griggs does not antedate the present applicant,..." that "...Provisional Application No. 60/219,857 contains a business plan and two technical disclosures..." that "...Ellis does not cure the deficiencies of Griggs..." etc.,(see page 12/16+ of Applicant's Remarks).

In response, Examiner notes Applicant's arguments, however, the Examiner disagrees. The disclosure in **Griggs's Pub. No: US 2002/0029384**, is further disclosed in **both provisional applications (whole document pages of Provisional Application 60/233581 filed 09/19/00 and pages 32-35 of Provisional Application No. 60/219,857 filed 07/20/00)**. Griggs discloses in **Provisional Application 60/233581, filed September 19, 2000 (09/19/00) entitled "MECHANISM FOR A CUSTOMIZED MULTIMEDIA CONTENT GUIDE BASED ON USER PREFERENCE"** where the disclosure, teaches a system that allows "...a user to specify by interest, the multimedia content to be delivered. The user can search multiple content sources to produce a custom catalog of content that is unique to that user..." that "...this invention...transition from one-way schedule-based broadcast networks (e.g., over-the-air, cable, and satellite) to the two-way on-demand based interactive networks and

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further illustrates the teaching using various drawings (e.g., DSL,...." (see pages 3-6, line 1+ "...**Mechanism for a Customized Multimedia Content Guide base on User Preference**). Griggs further discloses in Provisional Application 60/219857, filed July 20, 2000 (07/20/00), entitled: "**MECHINISM FOR DIGITAL VIDEO RENTAL, DISTRIBUTION AND CATCHING...**" various video distributions system, which includes other disclosure, e.g., where a user establishes an account with a service provider, selects movies of interest and where the service provider automatically charges a fee and streams the request movie to the user's receiving device at the requested time (see page 32, line 1+ to page 35). Hence Griggs is a proper prior art and maintained.

Griggs's discloses a System Server which customizes a channel for a user by establishing a communication channel with a user to stream broadcast programs (live, PPV or pre-ordered), but does not clearly discuss where the custom channel is a user created channel or user-made channel. However, in the same field of endeavor, **Ellis** reference figures 1-2, discloses personal television channel system, which permits a viewer or contributor to create a personal channel(s) (user-made channel) and where a server transmits personal channel(s) and data as indicated by the viewer via cable network or satellite (figs.1, 8-14, col.2, line 57-col.3, line 29, line 55-col.4, line 4, line 59-col.5, line 22, col.9, line 61-col.10, line 33, col.13, line 29-col.14, line 12 and line 24-51). Griggs as modified by Ellis, do not clearly discuss determining where to add/delete program(s) by resolving conflicts and related recited limitations. However, in the same field of endeavor, **Knudson** discloses an interactive program guide system (client/server) and method where when a user orders a program or program package,

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the server resolves conflicts, communicates information to the client, adding, deleting, etc., program(s) of a package of program(s) to meet the clients orders or purchases (figs.1-3, 77-96+, [0054-0058] and [0198-0203]). Hence Applicant's amended claims do not overcome the prior arts of record as discussed below. **This office action is made final.**

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 13, 14, 16, 17, 18-23, 27, 28, 32 and 34-38 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over **Griggs (2002/0029384)** in view of **Ellis et al (6,774,926)** and further in view of **Knudson et al (2005/0204387)**

As to claims 1-3, note the **Griggs** reference figures 1-5, discloses mechanism for distributing content data and further discloses a method comprising:

Providing a program guide of a television programming to enable a customer to create a customer-made channel by selecting at least one TV program from the program guide and by specifying a viewing time for the selected TV program, where the customer-made channel is specific and dedicated to the customer (figs.1-5, System Server 'SS' 105, 125, 207, etc, page 2, [0028-0031] and [0033-0034])

Receiving input from the customer including the selected TV program and the specified viewing time; determining whether to include the selected program in the customer made channel; obtaining TV programs for customer-made channel and transmitting to the obtained TV programs customer using the customer-made channel created by the customer (page 3, [0036-0038], [0041-0044] and [0046-0050], [0052-0055] and [0064-0065]) and further teaches encrypting the broadcast (page 4, [0047-0048]), note that SS-105 stores users' preferences, accounts or payment information, location, etc., and based on these parameters determines whether to include the selected program to the customized list and further establishes a personal communication channel ([0053]) with the user's TV set ([0056] and [0061]) to transmit the customized TV programs (PPV, etc.,) accordingly.

Griggs's System Server customizes a channel for a user by establishing a communication channel with a user to stream broadcast programs (live, PPV or pre-ordered), but fails to explicitly teach where the custom channel is a user created channel or user-made channel.

However, note the **Ellis** reference figures 1-2, discloses personal television channel system, which permits a viewer or contributor to create a personal channel(s) (user-made channel) and where a server transmits personal channel(s) and data as indicated by the viewer via cable network or satellite (figs.1, 8-14, col.2, line 57-col.3, line 29, line 55-col.4, line 4, line 59-col.5, line 22, col.9, line 61-col.10, line 33, col.13, line 29-col.14, line 12 and line 24-51).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate the teaching of Ellis into the system of Griggs to allow a user to have control of the broadcast channel(s) by indicating to the System Server or the Service Provider, a preferred channel to transmit the requested program(s) of interest.

Griggs as modified by Ellis, fail to explicitly teach determining where to add/delete program(s) by resolving conflicts and related recited limitations.

However, **Knudson** discloses an interactive program guide system (client/server) and method where when a user orders a program or program package, the server resolves conflicts, communicates information to the client, adding, deleting, etc., program(s) of a package of program(s) to meet the clients orders or purchases (figs.1-3, 77-96+, [0054-0058] and [0198-0203]).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate the teaching of Knudson into the system of Griggs as modified by Ellis in order to resolve conflicts and properly package, the requested or purchased program(s) within appropriate broadcast time slots, for the user(s).

As to claim 2, Grigg is silent to allowing a customer to create more than one custom channel and obtaining programs for more than one custom channel and simultaneously transmitting to the customer the custom channels.

However, Ellis further discloses allowing a customer to create favorite channels and transmitting the custom favorite channels simultaneously to the customer (col.15, lines 4-35).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate the teaching of Ellis into the system of Grigg to allow a customer to create favorite channels and display only the favorite channels and associated selected programs.

As to claims 4-5, Griggs further discloses providing access to TV programming comprises providing the customer at least one access code to the a program in the program guide, an access code including and access level and pre-recording a program in the custom channel if the customer desires to view the program later time (page 3, [0035], [0038-0042] and [0045-0048]).

Claims 13-14 are met as previously discussed with respect to claim 1.

As to claim 16, Gigg is silent to providing a voice recognition interface.

However, Ellis teaches providing a voice recognition interface (col.5, line 57- col.6, line 22).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate the teaching of Ellis into the system of Grigg to enable a user to control functions or various operations by directly speaking into a voice recognition system thereby eliminating any physical interaction with an input device.

As to claim 17, Grigg further discloses where the user interface comprises a web-based user interface ([0055] and [0061]).

As to claims 18-19, the claimed “a method comprising...” is composed of the same structural elements that were discussed with respect to the rejection of claims 1.

Claim 20 is met as previously discussed with respect to claims 1.

As to claim 21, Griggs further discloses recordable digital video (Disk/local Storage) “video storage medium” couple to the receiver to receive and store television programming (page 5, [0053-0060]).

Claim 22 is met as previously discussed with respect to claims 1.

As to claim 23, Griggs further discloses an access circuitry coupled to the customer interface, for receiving and verifying a viewer access code (page 3, [0035], [0038-0042] and [0045-0048]).

Claim 27 is met as previously discussed with respect to claim 5.

As to claim 28, the claimed “An article of manufacture, comprising...” is composed of the same structural elements that were discussed with respect to the rejection of claim 1.

Claim 32 is met as previously discussed with respect to claims 2.

Claim 34 is met as previously discussed with respect to claims 5.

Claim 35 is met as previously discussed with respect to claims 1.

Claim 36 is met as previously discussed with respect to claims 16.

Claims 37-38 are met as previously discussed with respect to claims 1-2.

Conclusion

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to **Annan Q. Shang** whose telephone number is **571-272-7355**. The examiner can normally be reached on **700am-400pm**.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, **Christopher S. Kelley** can be reached on **571-272-7331**. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is **571-273-8300**.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the **Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free)**. If you would like assistance from a **USPTO Customer Service Representative** or access to the automated information system, **call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000**.

/Annan Q Shang/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2623

Annan Q. Shang.